

1. (Currently Amended) A system for positioning a load, said load coupled to a cable, said system comprising:

a column which defines a first vertical axis;

an arm unit which supports said load and which moves a) along said first vertical axis, and b) along and relative to said column;

a rotation unit for rotating said first vertical axis column about a second vertical axis spaced apart from the first vertical axis;

said column positionable so that it is closer to said load than said second vertical axis is to said load;

said load positionable by said arm unit so that said cable intersects said second vertical axis and said cable is situated to a side of said column.

2. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said load has a center of gravity and wherein said center of gravity, said first axis and said second axis are situated at the respective vertices of a triangle.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said column is forward of said second vertical axis towards said load and to a side of said second vertical axis.

4. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 1, further comprising a cable support which supports asaid cable coupled to the load.

relation of  
arm unit  
w/ column  
is not  
clear.

doesn't mean using  
column. 112

again doesn't  
mean on said  
column 112

i.e. distance bet  
col & load is closer  
than 2 vertical  
axis & load

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5. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 4, wherein said cable support moves along a third vertical axis.

6. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 1, wherein said rotation unit includes a bottom plate, and a swing plate which is coupled to said arm unit and which rotates relative to said bottom plate about said second vertical axis in order to rotate said load about said second vertical axis.

7. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 1, wherein said rotation unit includes a side to side plate which moves said load horizontally along a first horizontal axis orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

C! 8. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 1, wherein said rotation unit includes an in-out plate which moves said load horizontally along a second horizontal axis which intersects said first horizontal axis and which is orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

9. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 4, wherein said cables exit a test cabinet before being received for support by said cable support, and wherein said load is an electronic test head.

10. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 6, wherein said rotation unit includes a plurality of indexing members for indexing rotation of said swing plate about said second vertical axis.

11. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 4, wherein said cable support telescopes.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for positioning a load, said load coupled to a cable, said system comprising:

a column which defines a first vertical axis;

~~a cable support which moves along a third vertical axis and which supports a cable coupled to said load; and~~

an arm unit which moves a) along said first vertical axis and b) along and relative to said column and which supports said load;

a cable support which moves along a third vertical axis independently of said arm unit and which supports said cable coupled to said load; and

~~said column positionable so that it is closer to said load than said second vertical axis is to said load;~~

said load positionable by said arm unit so that said cable ~~intersects said second vertical axis and said cable~~ is situated to a side of said column.

13. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim ~~11~~12, further comprising a rotation unit for rotating said first vertical axis about a second vertical axis spaced apart from the first vertical axis.

14. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim ~~11~~12, wherein said cable support moves along said third vertical axis at one end thereof and said cable extends away from said one end and towards said load.

15. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 13, further comprising a base to which said arm unit is coupled, said base

including a bottom plate, and a swing plate which is coupled to said arm unit and which rotates relative to said bottom plate about said first vertical axis in order to rotate said test head about said first vertical axis.

16. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 13, wherein said base includes a side to side plate which moves said test head horizontally along a first horizontal axis orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

17. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 13, wherein said base includes an in-out plate which moves said test head horizontally along a second horizontal axis which intersects said first horizontal axis and which is orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

C! 18. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim ~~11~~12, wherein said cables exit a test cabinet before being received for support by said support unit, and wherein said load is an electronic test head.

19. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 15, wherein said base includes a plurality of indexing members for indexing rotation of said swing plate about said first vertical axis.

20. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load according to~~ claim ~~11~~12, wherein said cable support telescopes.

21. (Previously Amended) A system for positioning a load, comprising:  
  
an arm unit which supports said load and which moves along a vertical column which defines a first vertical axis,

a rotation member for rotating said first vertical axis about a second vertical axis spaced apart from said first vertical axis;

a cable support which moves along a third vertical axis and which supports a cable coupled to said load; and

*relative to surface  
1/12 2nd  
vertical motion  
with arm unit  
not clear*  
a further rotation member which provides rotation of said load about a horizontal axis, wherein vertical motion of said cable is preventable while said load is rotating about said horizontal axis.

22. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said arm unit moves upward and downward along said column.

23. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said cable support moves along said third vertical axis at one end thereof and said cable extends away from said one end and towards said load.

24. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said rotation member includes a bottom plate, and a swing plate which is coupled to said arm unit and which rotates relative to said bottom plate about said second vertical axis in order to rotate said load about said second vertical axis.

25. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said rotation member includes a side to side plate which moves said load horizontally along a first horizontal axis orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

26. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said rotation member includes an in-out plate which moves said load horizontally along a second horizontal axis which intersects said first horizontal axis and which is orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

27. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 23, wherein said cables exits a test cabinet before being received for support by said cable support, and wherein said load is an electronic test head.

28. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 25, wherein said rotation member includes a plurality of indexing members for indexing rotation of said swing plate about said second vertical axis.

29. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for positioning a load~~ according to claim 21, wherein said cable support telescopes.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A system for positioning a load, said load coupled to a cable, said system comprising:

a column which defines a first vertical axis;

an arm unit which supports said load and which moves a) along said first vertical axis, and b) along and relative to said column;

a rotation unit for rotating said ~~first vertical axis~~ column about a second vertical axis spaced apart from the first vertical axis;

said second vertical axis situated not more than three widths of said cable away from said test cabinet;

said load positionable by said arm unit so that said cable intersects said second vertical axis and said cable is situated to a side of said column.

44. (Original) A system for positioning a load, said load coupled to a cable, said system comprising:

a column which defines a first vertical axis;

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sum ad  
claim 1  
an arm unit which supports said load and which moves along said first vertical axis;

a rotation unit for rotating said first vertical axis about a second vertical axis spaced apart from the first vertical axis;

said cable situated along an axis which intersects a center of gravity of said load;

said load positionable by said arm unit so that said cable intersects said second vertical axis and said cable is situated to a side of said column.

45. (New Added) A system according to claim 1, wherein said column is an upright support.

46. (Newly Added) A system according to claim 12, wherein said column is an upright support.

47. (New Added) A system according to claim 21, wherein said column is an upright support.

48. (New Added) A system according to claim 43, wherein said column is an upright support.

49. (New Added) A system according to claim 44, wherein said column is an upright support.



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Reply to Office Action of February 12, 2003

50. (Newly Added) A system for positioning a load according to claim 45, wherein said rotation member includes an in-out plate which moves said load horizontally along a second horizontal axis which intersects said first horizontal axis and which is orthogonal to said first vertical axis.

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 51. (Newly Added) A system for positioning a load according to claim 45, wherein said cable exits a test cabinet before being received for support by said cable support, and wherein said load is an electronic test head.

52. (Newly Added) A system for positioning a load according to claim 45, wherein said rotation member includes a plurality of indexing members for indexing rotation of said swing plate about said second vertical axis.

53. (Newly Added) A system for positioning a load according to claim 45, wherein said cable support telescopes.

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